



*Parks and Recreation ♦ 4811 North Saginaw Road ♦ Midland, Michigan 48640 ♦ 989.837.6930 ♦ 989.835.5651 Fax ♦ [www.cityofmidlandmi.gov](http://www.cityofmidlandmi.gov)*

June 1, 2017

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission

FROM: Karen Murphy, Public Services Director

SUBJECT: Parks and Recreation Commission Meeting of June 6, 2017

The regular meeting of the Midland Parks and Recreation Commission has been scheduled for Tuesday, June 6, 2017. The meeting will be held in Council Chambers of Midland City Hall at 333 W. Ellsworth and will begin at 7:00 p.m.

The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

- 1) Call to Order
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance
- 3) Roll Call
- 4) Minutes of meeting of May 2, 2017
- 5) Call to Audience
- 6) Momentum Midland Bike Midland station request
- 7) Michigan Recreation and Park Association award recognizing Jim Crissman's work on the City Forest mountain bike trail system
- 8) Wayfinding signage update for non-motorized trail system
- 9) Longview Spraypark pavilion donation
- 10) Project Reports
  - a. Central Park pavilion
  - b. Public Art update
  - c. Tridge renovation update
  - d. Upper Emerson project funding update
- 11) Old Business
- 12) New Business
- 13) Adjourn



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June 1, 2017

TO: Parks and Recreation Commission

FROM: Karen Murphy, Director of Public Services

SUBJECT: Notes for Meeting of June 6, 2017

Momentum Midland Bike Midland station request: Chelsea Rowley from Momentum Midland will present a request to locate a bike share station near the start of the Rail Trail by the Farmers Market as part of a community wide 3-year bike share pilot program.

Michigan Recreation and Park Association award recognizing Jim Crissman's work on the City Forest mountain bike trail system: Bart Heil will share with you an award presented to Jim Crissman for his volunteer efforts to build, maintain and expand the mountain bike trail system at the City Forest. Mr. Crissman was presented the award by mParks – the Michigan Recreation and Park Association.

Wayfinding signage update for non-motorized trail system: I will give an update on the wayfinding signage for the non-motorized trail system that was first presented to the Commission last fall. The sign locations are staked and production of the signs are underway.

Longview Spraypark pavilion donation: The Midland County ESA that resides in the old Longview School facility secured a donation from the Kiwassee Kiwanis Club of Midland for a pavilion at the spray park. This will provide much needed shade for park users. The Parks department partnered with the ESA on the project, which is located on ESA property within the City's recreation easement for the spray park.

#### Project Reports

- a. Central Park pavilion: I will share photographs of the completed pavilion and discuss the project components that remain to be completed this summer.
- b. Public Art update: I will share photographs of the public art that is now in place near City property by the Farmers Market.
- c. Tridge renovation update: I will provide an update on the ongoing Tridge renovation and share photographs of the progress.

- d. Upper Emerson project funding update: The appropriation of funds has been held up by proposed Senate Bill amendments. Our project designer is participating in conversations with mParks regarding the legislative hold up and is keeping us informed of the status.

MIDLAND PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION  
REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 2, 2017  
MIDLAND CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
7:00 P.M.

PROPOSED MINUTES

- 1) Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairperson John Metevia
- 2) Pledge of Allegiance
- 3) Roll Call:
  - a. MEMBERS PRESENT: Carlson, Carney, Johns, Metevia, Rice, Steidemann, Varela
  - b. MEMBERS ABSENT: Billotti, Rankin
  - c. OTHERS PRESENT: Sharon Mortenson, Midland Area Community Foundation; Grant Murschel, City of Midland Planning Department; Marcie Post, Recreation Manager
- 4) Minutes of February 7, 2017: Steidemann motioned, Varela seconded to receive minutes of the meeting of February 7, 2017. Motion passed 7-0.
- 5) Call to Audience: None
- 6) Public Art Committee proposal: Sharon Mortenson from the Midland Area Community Foundation spoke on behalf of the Public Art Committee. Mortenson shared a conceptual plan of a piece of public art produced by Stereobot of Los Angeles, CA that is proposed to be placed down by the Tridge this summer. Mortenson explained the piece may be placed on the H Hotel property or possibly on adjacent City property as details are still being worked out. The piece would be here for the months of June and July. With the downtown construction this summer, Mortenson feels this will help draw people to the area. A second piece will be placed at the Midland Center for the Arts. Mortenson also shared there will be three interactive word art pieces - 'ART' 'BUILDS' 'MIDLAND' – that will be placed around town.

Johns motioned to recommend that City Council approve the green space between the Farmers Market and Gerstacker Spraypark as an alternate location for a piece of public art this summer. Carlson seconded the motion and the motion passed 7 - 0.
- 7) Tridge renovation project: Murphy shared details on the Tridge renovation project that was approved by City Council in March. The project is being funded by a generous donation of \$2.5M from the Rollin M. Gerstacker Foundation and \$238,000 from the endowed Tridge Maintenance Fund held at the Midland Area Community Foundation (MACF). MACF will hold the funds for the project and the City's Park supervisory staff will manage the project. Work has already begun to remove/replace decking, railings and refinish the entire structure. The project timeline is estimated at 22-25 weeks with minimal access during the entire

process. Murphy stated the Tridge will be open from the Farmers Market to Chippewassee Park from July 4 – 18 to accommodate July 4 celebration and River Days.

- 8) Proposal for playground equipment in Parkdale Park: Murphy shared that the Parks maintenance staff have re-evaluated Parkdale Park as a possible location for new play equipment. This park was identified in 2013 as a minimal use park with much more robust play options across Swede Road at the old Parkdale Elementary School. Since that time, the play equipment has been removed from the former Parkdale School location and a new housing complex has gone up on the adjacent parcel. Parks staff feel play equipment would be a welcome addition to the park going forward. Murphy stated that if the Parks Commission is interested in supporting the addition of new play equipment at Parkdale Park, a letter would be sent to all adjacent neighbors asking for input on the location for the equipment. Standalone pieces such as a swing set, slide and climbing equipment would then be installed in the park.

Rice motioned to support the addition of new play equipment in the Park. Varela seconded the motion and motion passed 7 - 0.

- 9) Cemetery staffing update: Murphy shared that the current cemetery sexton has rendered his notice of retirement this June. Murphy believes Public Services & Parks has the internal skill sets and resources to adequately cover cemetery operations. An existing DPW supervisor is being trained on cemetery management and will be on-site running operations from mid-March through December 1. Cemetery hours will be available by appointment only during the winter months.

10) Project Reports:

- a. **City Forest year end update**: Post gave an update on City Forest operations for the 2016/17 season. City Forest winter operations were open 31 days this season with a total revenue of approximately \$295 per day. Weather was not cooperative this season for optimal winter operations.
- b. **Recreation update**: Post shared that May 2 is Give Local Midland at the Midland Area Community Foundation, and that the City's Parks Department is promoting donations to the Plymouth Park Fun Zone fund, the Central Park band shell fund and the Tridge maintenance fund.

Post shared that Saturday, May 6 is Pitch, Hit and Run. The event is co-sponsored by City of Midland and the Great Lakes Loons and will be held at the Loons stadium. This is a free baseball competition for kids.

Post also gave details on the upcoming Make Midland Beautiful poster recognition to be held at the May 8 City Council meeting. One of the initiatives of the Beautification Advisory Committee, it is a contest for

2<sup>nd</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> graders who make posters of what makes Midland beautiful in their eyes.

Post provided details for swim lesson registration which starts Wednesday, May 31. Registration can be done that morning in person at Plymouth Pool or online at [www.cityofmidlandlgov/recreation](http://www.cityofmidlandlgov/recreation). The pool is scheduled to open June 10.

Post shared the lineup for the ten Tunes by the Tridge concerts for the season. The Recreation Department has taken over the sponsorship component to help offset the costs of bringing in some bigger name bands. Post saw a good return on this effort last year with larger crowds than usual.

- c. **Arbor Day events:** Murphy reported on the Arbor Day recognition events that the City hosted along with the Dow Gardens, The Dow Chemical Company's Michigan Operations Community Outreach Team and the Midland Public Schools. Events were held on Arbor Day for fourth grade students at Adams, Plymouth, Siebert and Woodcrest schools involving three educational stations and a group specimen tree planting at each school. Another event was hosted on Saturday at the former Cook Elementary School site where Dow High students planted larger trees to delineate the parking area from the green space.

11) Old Business : None

12) New Business: None

13) Adjourn: Motioned by Steidemann, seconded by Carney to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed 7– 0. Meeting adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Murphy  
Director of Public Services